

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON  
CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
April 30, 2010

The City Council of the City of Burlington held a special meeting at the John Robert Kernodle Senior Activities Center, 1535 South Mebane Street, Burlington, N. C., 27216-1358, on April 30, 2010, at 7:45 a.m.

Mayor Ronnie K. Wall presided

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Wall, Councilmembers Huffman, Butler, and Faucette

Councilmembers absent: Ross

Harold Owen, City Manager: Present

Robert M. Ward, City Attorney: Absent

Jondeen D. Terry, City Clerk: Present

NC State Legislators present: Senator Tony Foriest, Representative Alice Bordsen and Representative Dan Ingle

Others present: Bob Harkrader, Nolan Kirkman, Bob Patterson, Anne Morris, Matt and Wellsley Robinson

City Manager Owen apologized for Steve Ross not being present due to having to be in New York. He said that Bob Ward could not be in attendance due to another City matter.

Mayor Wall called the meeting to order.

City Manager Owen thanked the legislators for attending the meeting. He distributed a booklet which identified and provided background information on the most pressing legislative topics for the City which might be discussed in the upcoming short session of the Legislature.

## ITEM 1 - Proposed Local Bills Involving Downtown Economic Development

Mr. Owen introduced Ms. Anne Morris, Executive Director, Downtown Corporation. He explained that approximately 18 months ago there was a turnaround for the downtown area and a Master Plan was adopted. He stated that Council was working with downtown representatives to develop new business.

The local bill involving economic development was reviewed and everyone supported it. Mr. Owen suggested adding it to the City Council agenda for May 4, 2010. Representatives Bordsen and Ingle said there was nothing unusual about the bill and that other cities had been through a similar process. Representative Ingle said he hoped it would help put some people to work.

## ITEM 2 - State Budget/State Collected Municipal Revenue

### Item 3 - Federal Issue - Action Call on Collective Bargaining

Representative Bordsen said that she cares greatly what this body thinks about issues and values those opinions but must also listen to concerns of individuals.

### Item 4 - City-Initiated Annexation for Managed Growth

Senator Foriest said North Carolina has not had the problems that other states have had. He said that we should not over-react and create a problem. He said this item may be heard in the short session or that it may not be until 2011.

Mayor Pro Tem Huffman stated that without unilateral annexation ability, growth is hampered.

### Item 5 - Environmental Issues - Triennial Review of Water Quality Standards

Utilities Director Bob Patterson explained that the Triennial Review could hamper economic development especially on the industrial side. Councilmember Butler said the City had been forced to consider a seven percent increase in water and sewer rates for fiscal year 2010-11. He said that if Triennial becomes a burden, those of us who are under stricter rules because of Jordan Lake should be opted out. Otherwise, the City would be impeded to be competitive.

Mayor Pro Tem Huffman asked if the Council was being short-sighted by not having a lobbyist.

Representative Bordsen said that sharing a lobbyist might be a good idea but that it would be the City's decision. She said that being engaged is enormously important. She explained that the more you were involved and engaged, the better work the representatives could accomplish.

Mayor Wall expressed opposition to hiring a lobbyist.

#### Item 6 - Water Allocation

City of Burlington has become a regional water supplier. Under the proposed legislation, if a water basin were determined to be over-allocated regarding water- use, prior allocations could be reduced at the DENR level with no action required by the Legislature or the Environmental Management Commission.

#### Item 7: Transportation

Transferring state road maintenance to the City was discussed.

#### Final Comments

Senator Foriest inquired about where the City was spreading sludge. Bob Patterson responded.

Representative Bordsen said that it was highly helpful to let her know about spiked issues prior to short and long sessions. She said it helped to build up knowledge of the whys and wherefores and why it was of concern to the City.

Senator Foriest said it was helpful and that he wanted to distinguish between Council and individual opinions. He said it helped him to know Council's opinions on topics.

#### ADJOURN

Upon motion by Mayor Pro Tem Huffman, seconded by Councilmember Butler, it was resolved unanimously to adjourn.

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Jondeen D. Terry  
City Clerk